

**Head Coach Mike Tomlin  
Pittsburgh Steelers vs. Miami Dolphins  
Heinz Field • Sunday, January 8**



**Opening Statement:** It's great to get the win. We don't take it for granted. This time of year the road gets increasingly narrow and it's good to still be on it. A lot of significant contributions from all parties involved. The real summary of the game is we had the big three rolling on offense and we stopped the run on defense. We do those things, we have a chance to win games regardless of circumstance, situation or opponent. We did that today. We weren't perfect. But we haven't been perfect all year, let's just be honest. It was enough for the victory. We appreciate it. We have a big week ahead of us this week in preparation for our next opportunity. We're excited about continuing with that. Bumps and bruises associated with it. Nothing of extreme significance. I think Sean Davis went down with a shoulder in-game, but was able to go back in the game. But I would imagine there could be some ramifications with that. Other than that, normal bumps and bruises associated with the pursuit of victory. So we're excited.

**Re: On what it was like having Ben Roethlisberger, Le'Veon Bell and Antonio Brown health for a playoff game:**

You saw it. It was good to have those guys in a stadium at that time of year. That's why we took the approach we took last week with those guys. It was a fun time today.

**Re: On the difference between now and Week Six:**

We've continued to evolve. To get the result of game, I give these guys credit, they come in everyday with the intentions of getting better. I think you see it in the results when you look at an example like you showed. But just in general, I think our guys come in with a good spirit that's geared toward getting better on a daily basis.

**Re: On the nature of rematches:**

We don't care about the nameless gray faces we're playing right now. This is man versus himself. We're trying to do what's required to win. We're not trying to settle vendettas and things of that nature. They beat us fair and square in Week Six. You tip your cap to them for that performance. Today was today. And it's going to be the same going forward. What happened during the regular season is of little importance. What is important is that you do enough to get out of these stadiums and advance. And that's what we were able to do today.

**Re: On strengthening the run game the last couple months:**

Just like we said in other areas. I think the guys continually have gotten better. We've cohesion along with the presence of people, Le'Veon, we missed a pocket of time there with [Marcus] Gilbert and some others that missed some time. I just think more than anything it's gaining that cohesion that continuity provides you over the course of the season. Provided you come to work every day with a mindset geared toward getting better. And they do.

**Re: On what's unique about Bell:**

He's a man for all situations or circumstances. Whether it's inside run, whether it's perimeter run, whether it's the passing game, he's just good, has a good skillset. He does a lot of things well. And so, he adds value to us in that way.



**Re: On his confidence in the defense and how he would characterize it:**

We base our confidence off of what we see. We see these guys getting better every day. They work hard. We get our vibe off of them in a lot of ways. They're playing well. We have belief in them.

**Re: On James Harrison:**

He's a peculiar leader because he's somewhat unassuming and he doesn't have a lot to say, but his actions speak volumes. I think he's an easy guy to follow from that perspective.

**Re: On if he tried to set a tone when he ran nine-straight times in the third series:**

We just wanted to make sure we had the type of balance that we desire. We have to be able to run it. We have to be able to throw it. We got a couple quick strikes early and we appreciate those. I'm not against them, but we need that balance. That balance is a catalyst for us.

**Re: On what freed up Brown on the 50-yard screen:**

Just good execution. He did a nice job setting the blocks. Those guys did a nice job executing the blocks, particularly Jesse James. And the rest was A.B.

**Re: On if he's ever seen a runner as patient as Bell:**

He's the most patient one I've had. But again, I try not to draw a whole lot of comparisons. I just want to appreciate him for what he is and go from there.

**Re: On what plans of his worked and didn't work:**

We needed to stop the run against these guys. We needed to establish our core offensive weapons. We were able to do those things. We turned the ball over some. We lost a couple of third downs [and] third-and-longs that they converted. But today we play. We evaluate tomorrow. That's about as much of an evaluation as I can give you.

**Re: On what's sparked this current winning streak:**

We tune out the outside noise. We come to work every day. We focus on the variables that matter, the things that are within our control. That's our preparation, and ultimately, our play. That's no small thing. The guys are to be given credit for that.

**Re: On Harrison's strip sack:**

It was just a good disguise. That's just the savviness of a guy like James. He showed coverage and rolled down late and came off the edge, and was unblocked because of it.

**Re: On why Bud Dupree was penalized:**

I'm not getting into that.

